

Parish Council of Langton Matravers

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Minutes of a virtual Council Meeting held on 'Zoom' on Thursday 14th January 2021 at 7 pm.

Present: Cllr W Knight in the Chair, Cllrs P Christie, A Bell, P White, D Pearson, I Vaughan-Arbuckle, M Kirby, N Harding. Dorset Cllr Brooks and 2 members of the public were also 'present'.

The meeting was recorded.

1. Apologies for absence: Cllr Loudoun, Tom Clarke (NT).
2. Declarations of interest / Grants of Dispensation. Cllr V-A, Planning 1c).
3. National Trust Report. The Clerk read out Mr Clarke's report. Car parks are being kept open for local people taking exercise. Corfe Castle is closed. The Trust are starting to think about what a volunteer ranger presence to engage with visitors might look like, now some rangers have taken voluntary redundancy. This can be discussed with LMPC at February's meeting.
4. Dorset Cllr's Report. The pandemic has affected staffing at DC, with staff now likely to continue to work from home until June. The peak for infections is likely to be in the next 2-3 weeks, with numbers rising rapidly in the Purbeck area. The vaccination which is being rolled out will not affect numbers for 2-3 months. Cllr V-A asked for clarification about the 'Highways and Transport Board': it is an internal working group consisting of Matthew Piles, Jack Wiltshire, and Cllrs including Cllrs Brooks and Bryan; they do not produce formal Minutes.
5. Public Participation. The meeting was adjourned for this item.
 - a) Chris Spilling asked what Covid guidance Council is giving to parishioners and 2nd Home owners. Mrs Mayes also expressed concern about the matter.
 - b) Cllr Parish of Corfe Castle sent a message via the Clerk as she was unable to attend the meeting in person. She invited Cllrs to attend a joint virtual meeting on March 2nd with CCPC and other local T&PCs and members of the public, either in a personal capacity or as representatives of LMPC, to share views and consider responses to the new Dorset Local Plan consultation.
 - c) Cllr Harding relayed a message from parishioner Jasmine Cattle to say that there had been 2 cases of punctures to car tyres as a result of the state of the road surface at Crack Lane. **ACTION: Clerk to report.** The meeting was reconvened.
6. Matters Arising from Public Participation.

There had been a report of beer cans in the full dustbins at Crack Lane Cemetery. **ACTION: Clerk.**
7. Planning Matters. 1. Receive comments from the public on the following applications: An objection had been received from Ms Tatchell and Mr Stannard on a) and b) (neighbours).
 2. a) [6/2020/0472](#) Mr Tim York, Palafox, The Hyde, Langton Matravers, Swanage, BH19 3HE. Erect a replacement porch and replace windows. Part render and repoint exterior walls and quoin corners (Retrospective). **The Council OBJECTS to this work on the grounds of the visual appearance and finishing: the 'stone' (?) quoins and lintels and the large porch are out of keeping not only with the rest of the building but the wider context of the road/area.**
 - b) [6/2020/0465](#) Mr Tim York, Palafox, The Hyde, Langton Matravers, Swanage, BH19 3HE. Two storey rear extension including loft conversion to form habitable accommodation with Juliet balcony. Garage side extension. **The Council OBJECTS to this application: the main extension is too large, and will cause overshadowing and overlooking and loss of privacy to neighbours.**Cllr V-A left the meeting.
 - c) [6/2020/0468](#) Mr Julian Harding, Corfe Way, Valley Road, Harmans Cross, Swanage, BH19 3DX. Provision of sewerage treatment plant to land at rear of Corfe Way. **No Objection.**Cllr V-A rejoined the meeting.
3. Decisions since last meeting:
 - 6/2020/0353 Miss K Travers & Mr J Cartwright, 12 Capston Field, Langton Matravers, Swanage, BH19 3HP. Sever land, erect 2 semi-detached dwellings. **Approved**

4. Other Planning Matters. None.

8. Minutes of the virtual Meeting held 10th December 2020. There was a queried omission from Cllr V-A regarding Item 15: the Minutes will be re-drafted as necessary: they were agreed otherwise to be a correct record. They will be signed by the Chair in due course.

9. Matters Arising from the Minutes. a) Item 19.4.b) Resolution to purchase fencing materials for the allotment. Cllr Loudoun had inspected the posts and rabbit wire, and does not think that so many large fence posts are necessary. It was agreed to go with Cllr Loudoun's recommendation for 10 x 5ft posts.

ACTION: Clerk to order.

b) Item 16. Cllrs Loudoun and Christie will shortly plant Cllr Lovell's memorial tree at the Parish Office: a formal ceremony will be arranged post-pandemic.

10. The Clerk's Report for the period 2.12.2020 – 5.1.2021. Correspondence received and actions taken can be read on p.2 of the agenda. Report received.

a) B1. Play Area lease. The DC premises team are processing our request for a new 20-year lease; they await confirmation of support from Mrs Wemyss at St George's School.

b) CA8.DC Flood Risk Management query. This relates to flooding in the Hyde. It was agreed to take no further action in the matter.

c) CA9. Offer of DC dog/litter warden training. Cllr Brooks explained the scheme, but Cllrs did not express interest in taking this up.

d) CA10. James Mercer – Forest School at Woodland Trail. Cllrs were positive and supportive.

The next final date for inclusion of correspondence-related agenda items received between meetings is 2nd February 2021.

11. Chairman's Announcements. Ferry Inquiry update. Cllr Knight had attended most of the hearing. It seems likely that concerns about fare rises for pedestrians and cyclists will be addressed, as well as about discount tickets for locals. The company have given an undertaking that no further dividends will be paid until sufficient funds for a replacement ferry have been put in place, though the mechanism for this is not clear. The Inspector has now to make recommendations to the Secretary of State on the proposals.

12. Phone Box reinstatement and Dorset Council's role in the Consultation. Cllr Knight expressed his appreciation that DC had sent a formal apology to LMPC for not advising them of the BT consultation on the matter. BT had advised that they will not be replacing the box, as they had carried out their statutory duties under the consultation procedure, and nobody had used the telephone in the last year. Cllr Pearson recommended that we looked into listing of other items of Street Furniture. ***ACTION: To be added to a future agenda.*** It was ***RESOLVED: To ask DC to reinstate the phone box as a part of Langton Matravers' street furniture.*** ***ACTION: Clerk.*** Ms Mayes was invited to speak and noted the importance of a working phone box in the case of emergencies with mobile signal black spots and power cuts in the area, and a high seasonal visitor population; BT have corporate responsibility: this is not just about profit. It was agreed to ask Royal Mail if there would be a formal consultation process before the removal of a village post box. ***ACTION: Clerk.***

13. Covid Restrictions. It was noted that since lockdown had been declared Dorset Police had taken a more active role in stopping those breaking Covid restrictions. Cllr Brooks said that though parishioners may not have seen direct action, it didn't mean that it wasn't happening. DC are working hard on this. ***RESOLVED: That the Clerk write formally to the Dorset Chief Constable, the Police Commissioner and Dorset Council (Covid Marshalls) to say that we appreciate that they are being more assertive in enforcing the restrictions to protect local communities, and asking the Police about the role of PCSOs in this.*** ***ACTION: Clerk.*** It was agreed to post information on the website and in the Dubber giving lists of taxis etc for those needing transport to get to their vaccinations at Wareham hospital.

14. Highways. 20mph Proposal. Cllr VA reported on the PTAG AGM at which he explained what happened at the DC Place and Resources Oversight committee meeting on 17 December 2020 which had discussed 20 mph policy. PTAG comments, which Cllr VA had drafted, were attached to the meeting papers as was Appx C, Dorset Council's draft Guidance for the approach and criteria when judging applications for a 20 mph speed limit. Cllrs were generally supportive of PTAGs comments and resolved

to follow DfT guidance and policy for setting speed limits while tasking the Highways and Transport Board to further develop Appx C in light of points made by councillors at the Place and Resources Oversight Committee. It will be important to keep in touch with the progress of Appx C and to comment, where necessary, as it passes through various stages before eventually being adopted by DC.

15. Financial Matters. (1) Additions to Council funds since the last Council Meeting:

£ 1,655.00 Allotment fees 2021.

(2) Note the following Payments by cheque or cash made since the last meeting:

£ 918.68 Clerk's salary (December).

£ 25.76 HMRC – PC National Insurance payment (December).

£ 190.66 Linda Mc Morrow. – cleaning of Public Conv. (December) + materials.

£ 212.45 SSE - Electricity supply to toilet block 29.9 – 21.12.2020.

£ 17.35 SSE – unmetered electricity to footway lights 24.9. – 23.12.2020.

£ 480.00 National Trust – allotment rent.

£ 139.64 Marsh Commercial – Allotment Insurance 2021.

£ 14.99 Fan heater for office (cheque to Cllr Christie)

(3) Payment by Direct Debit:

£ 61.13 XLN Telecom for phone and broadband + new router (December).

£ 27.56 NEST - PC contribution to Clerk's pension (December).

(4) Any other Financial Matters: a) Approve Precept. **RESOLVED: To maintain LMPC's part of the Council Tax at its present level by setting a Precept for 2021-22 of £30,195.00.**

20. Confirmation of the date of the next virtual Council Meeting 11th February 2021 at 7 pm.

21. Additional Items for future meetings: Street Lights / Allotment officer roles, / Dorset Local Plan Consultation / NT Volunteer offering (Feb) / Listing of Street furniture. It was agreed that the Council's formal response to the Dorset Local Plan Consultation could either be split between meetings in February and March, or be addressed at a special meeting.

Closed 9.30 pm.

Signed..... (Chairman) Date.....